



PUBLIC NOTICE

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

445 12th Street, S.W., TW-A325

WASHINGTON, DC 20554

DA 08-281

News media information 202/418-0500 Fax-On Demand 202/418-2830 Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov> <ftp.fcc.gov>

Released: February 1, 2008

FCC AND USDA TO CONDUCT REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS ON RURAL BROADBAND DURING 2008

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) will conduct four educational workshops focused on rural broadband during 2008. The workshops will provide communities and organizations in rural America seeking to bring the benefits of broadband to their communities with an opportunity to learn about the resources, programs, and policies of the FCC and USDA.

The topics to be covered at the workshops include: the different technology platforms used to provide broadband services, USDA funding for broadband deployment, the FCC's Rural Health Care Pilot program, and wireless spectrum access. The workshops will also provide communities and organizations an opportunity to share their experiences about broadband deployment in rural and hard-to-reach areas.

One rural broadband educational workshop will be held in each of the four regions of the country – Northeast/Mid-Atlantic, South/Midwest, Central, and West – according to the following schedule:

April 30, 2008: Blacksburg, Virginia

June 19, 2008: Saginaw, Michigan

September 18, 2008: Austin, Texas

November 20, 2008: Phoenix, Arizona

The information provided will be similar at each workshop. The workshops will be held free of charge; however, attendees will be responsible for providing their own transportation, lodging, and meals.

If you are interested in attending a particular workshop, please register no later than **February 25, 2008**. Below is the information required to register:

- Community/Organization Name
- Address
- Phone Number

- Email Address
- Contact Person
- Workshop Location You Wish to Attend
- Number of Expected Attendees
- Description of Accommodations Required for People with Disabilities
(Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities will be made available upon request.)

There are several ways for you to register for a workshop:

- **Online.** Go to the FCC's website at <http://wireless.fcc.gov/outreach/ruralbroadband/workshop> and fill in the online registration form.
- **By Email.** Send the information outlined above in an email to ruralworkshop@fcc.gov.
- **By Telephone.** Call (877) 480-3201 and press Option 1.
For TTY, dial (717) 338-2824.
- **By U.S. Mail.** Send a letter with the information outlined above to:
Federal Communications Commission
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
ATTN: Chelsea Fallon
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

A community or organization can register for only one workshop. The contact person listed in the registration will receive additional information at a later day regarding the workshop selected, including the exact time and venue, as well as a detailed agenda.

For additional information about the workshops, please visit the FCC's website at <http://wireless.fcc.gov/outreach/ruralbroadband/>; send an email to ruralworkshop@fcc.gov; or contact Chelsea Fallon at Chelsea.Fallon@fcc.gov or (202) 418-7991, or Cecilia Sulhoff at Cecilia.Sulhoff@fcc.gov or (202) 418-0587. Further information on rural programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office and on the USDA's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

- FCC -